

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



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**CLOSURE OF COLD BAY AND MORZHOVOI BAY TANNER CRAB FISHERY IN
THE WESTERN SECTION OF THE SOUTH PENINSULA DISTRICT**

EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 4-S-2-12

In the Western Section of the South Peninsula District, waters of Cold Bay and Morzhovoi Bay will close inside a line from Cape Pankof (54° 39.37' N. lat.; 163° 03.49' W. long.) to Bold Cape (55° 01.26' N. lat.; 162° 15.59' W. long.) to Tanner crab fishing at 5:59 p.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2012. Catch reports indicate harvest will approach survey estimates of allowable Tanner crab surplus. Further harvest is not warranted to protect the long-term health of Tanner crab in this area.

All pots within the closed area must be unbaited and doors open at the time of the closure. Unbaited pots may be stored in the closed area in waters deeper than 25 fathoms for 72 hours. After 72 hours, all pots remaining in the closed area must be removed from the water or placed in waters shallower than 25 fathoms. Vessels operators are not required to deliver crab harvested from the closed area

Fishing in the remainder of the South Peninsula District – Western Section will remain open until further notice.